

Evening Telegraph

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1864.

SPIRIT OF THE NEW YORK PRESS.

Leading Editorials from the New York Papers This Morning.

SHERMAN'S MARCH—THE TOPOGRAPHY OF GEORGIA.

From the Times.

It will be seen that the Richmond *Examiner* of Tuesday last rather facetiously remarks that "if the Lieutenant-General [Grant] has already sent to Hon. W. M. Stanton the information which we [the *Examiner*] communicated to him on yesterday, that Sherman had passed by Millen, we hope that he will be fair to that statesman, and send another despatch, stating how the Richmond *Examiner* now deems that Sherman's army had passed by Millen. This it does positively," from information furnished by the Confederate Government. We suppose, therefore, that in this case, as on this matter we must credit the Richmond *Examiner* to the Confederate Government, and believe that Millen, which is eighty miles from Savannah, was not captured by General Sherman up to Monday night or Tuesday morning of the current week.

It appears, however, from our other extracts from Rebel papers, at least at the 6th, that at the beginning of his march, Sherman's army was not far from Millen—it might even be south of that point—and was marching towards the sea along the state boundary, some twenty miles within that between the Ogeechee and Savannah rivers.

The Rebels always assure that Sherman's army is now in the neighborhood of Savannah, which we think is at all unlikely; and they further assert that he will be whipped, which we think extremely unlikely.

Sherman, if he be where the Rebels locate him, is now in a section of Georgia where the march of an army is attended with difficulty. A well-informed correspondent furnishes some information as to the topography of this and the other parts of Georgia, which are of interest at this time, and which we quote:

There are three very distinct regions of the State—the mountainous, which it embraces the northwest corner, and comes down to the Kennesaw Mountain, near Marietta. 2. Where it opens into a gentle, undulating country, extending 120 miles east to Macon, about the same distance northeast to Augusta, and south to Columbus. 3. Below these points, the piney woods, low, sandy, level, with wide swamps bordering all the streams, and extending one hundred and fifty to two hundred miles to the sea or the gulf. It is in this latter division that General Sherman's army is now moving.

This third region is the most exclusively to grains and grapes. What is usually a good crop. The middle region, from Atlanta to Macon, is a mixture of corn and cotton. It will produce very little of the smaller grains and no grass. It is cut up into small plantations, and occupied by men of moderate means, with thriving villages as the county seats. The third division, the low country, is almost exclusively in possession of large planters, and cotton is the staple, although it will grow corn, but no small grain or grass. Doubtless the lands are cultivated in cereals as far as practicable at this time. So that General Sherman has a productive region of hundred miles round him from which he can draw supplies.

The railroad from Atlanta to Macon runs one hundred and one miles on the dividing ridge between the waters of the Atlantic and the Gulf, and has not a bridge, not even a culvert, in the whole distance, scarcely an embankment or a crossing. All the destruction either army can do to that is to the rails and ties and water tanks. The road to Augusta crosses numerous streams and ravines, and can be broken in many places by destroying bridges. These roads are of one gauge. It will be seen that General Sherman already controls the regions of the small grains and the others. Their chief iron works are at Etowah, Rome, and Atlanta, and all are dependent on the mountain region for ore. The whole country is open, well settled, and the roads good.

From these facts may readily be seen the prospect of gathering colored soldiers from Sherman's Department. The mountain country has scarcely any roads, the rolling country consists of plantations worked by five, ten, twenty, sometimes fifty negroes. The cavalry raids in those regions will gather up many, but the great bodies of them are below Macon, Augusta, and Columbus.

It is evident from all our news, that the Rebel forces gathered together in Georgia, have not, up to the latest dates, been able to seriously obstruct his progress. If they are able to do anything at all, they must do it this week.

THE NEW CHIEF JUSTICE.

From the Tribune.

Five years ago had any one suggested Salmon P. Chase as the probable successor of Roger B. Taney in the most responsible and eminent position of Chief Justice of the United States, he would have been regarded as in need of a straight-jacket. The chasm that separated the law from the present incumbent of that station is wider than that spanned by the twenty-year's sleep of Rip Van Winkle, to which he lay down a loyal subject of King George and awoke a fellow-citizen of President Washington. The death of Judge Taney during the night following the peace with Mexico, March 10, was due to State, marked the close of an era; the accession of another. The passing away of the one, the opening of the other, occur in the midst of a gigantic civil convulsion, which has piled the earth with its slain and filled the sky with the smoke of its conflagrations; but we need not doubt that the angry clouds of battle and havoc will soon be illumined by the bow of conciliation and peace.

The unanimity and heroism wherewith Governor Chase's appointment has been welcomed argue a general appreciation of the magnitude of our country, far more general than has previously been realized. The clanger and clash of opinion in our late Presidential contest have given place to a general conviction that impartial liberty is henceforth to be the fundamental law of the Republic; hence the instinctive perception that Governor Chase is the very man for Chief Justice. For more than twenty years he has not only believed, but proclaimed that liberty in our Union is the general and permanent rule, slavery the local and temporary exception.

He so held it, to affirm it, in the right of man, as was to hold it in the right of God; power or honor he has continued to hold until, through the madness of the slaveholding interest, it has become possible to love and uphold immortal freedom without thereby incurring ostracism or proscription. His present position adds another to the visible, tangible encouragements to faith in the right, and in the present, palpable activity of divine justice in the affairs of mankind.

The position of Chief Justice has been filled, since it was created by the Federal Constitution, by four persons, namely, John Jay, of New York; Oliver Ellsworth, of Connecticut; & John Marshall, of Virginia; 4 Roger B. Taney, of Maryland. Messrs. Jay and Ellsworth were respectively nominated by Washington; and each resigned after serving for a few years only; Judge Marshall was nominated by John Adams, just before his retirement from the Presidency; and Judge Taney by General Jackson in the late fall of his second term. Marshall took the office in his mature prime, and held it over thirty-four years, dying in it at the ripe age of eighty; Jay accepted it when nearly sixty, yet held it almost thirty years, dying Oct. 18, 1829, the age of eighty-seven. As Ellsworth lived to be seventy-two, and Jay to be ninety-three, the office may be deemed favorable to longevity, and we

may reverently hope that its new incumbent has many years of vigor and usefulness before him.

General Dix, in his late able letter to the War Democrats of our city, gave emphatic utterance to the widely received opinion that the name of Anthony is now less commonly associated with gallantry in the early years of our national existence. It is well that the poet of Chief Justice should exhibit a signal exception to this remark; and that, as all who have hitherto filled it have been eminently capable as well as personally blameless citizens in their success. In this crisis should be conspicuously one of the very ablest and purest of American jurists and statesmen. And, among the many strong and cool men who were eligible to this position, the choice of the President could have fallen upon none nobler or wiser than Salmon P. Chase.

AN APPROPRIATE GIFT TO SHERMAN'S VETERANS.

In sixteen days more the Christmas festivities will be around us, and we cannot forget in our hearts at Dover on Saturday week, with the view of getting ready at 8 o'clock. He wanted her to accompany him, but—she is now her companion, and she has given way to violent fits of temper, that he has often drawn upon her, and once threat, threatening to murder her, and that he offered to kill her for two children, unless she permitted him to take them away with him.

Having been out of employment for some time, the woman says that her husband left his home at Dover on Saturday week, with the view of getting ready at 8 o'clock. He wanted her to accompany him, but—she is now her companion, and she has given way to violent fits of temper, that he has often drawn upon her, and once threat, threatening to murder her, and that he offered to kill her for two children, unless she permitted him to take them away with him.

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